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The Negro Farmer

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALABAMA

1915

1915

SYRUP-MAKING AT HOME

Reducing the food-bill for 1915

The scene above represents a colored farmer, Mr. Charles W. Greene, who had the forethought to plant a little sugar cane in his back yard. Not only will he have syrup enough to help reduce his regular food bill, but his bill for sugar will be lighter.

PLANT SOME SUGAR CANE THIS YEAR.

Bulletin 2

Why Should The South Care

How Many Negroes Are Sick or How Many Die?

Leaving aside the fact that each man is his brother's keeper, putting out of sight the purely charitable view, the South has a very vital interest in the health of the colored people. Read these facts from the Negro Year Book for 1914-1915:

(1) 225,000 Negroes in the South die every year.

(2) The South loses every year, in the potential earnings of the colored people who die, $170,000,000.

(3) 100,000 of the Negroes who die annually could be saved from death.

(4) Negroes pay $15,000,000 annually for funeral expenses. This money could be put into improved farms.

The South, therefore, is directly concerned, from a financial point of view in the health of its colored people; and it is certain that this section will co-operate with the Negroes of the country in celebrating a—

National Health Day In 1915

All persons, of all races, are asked to co-operate in the movement.

Watch "The Negro Farmer" for other Bulletins

Further information may be had by addressing

Booker T. Washington, *Principal*

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

THE NEGRO FARMER

Published Bi-Weekly in the Interest of the Home, Farm and Garden; especially devoted to the Interest of Negro Land Owners and Tenant Farmers and Those Who Employ Negro Labor. The Only Negro Farm Newspaper in the World to be Circulated Among 2,000,000 Black Farmers

Vol. 2, No. 25 TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., JANUARY 2, 1915 5c Per Copy. $1.00 Per Year

New Year Warning
for Southern Colored Farmers

Don't attempt to drop cotton-raising entirely this year. You need to grow a few bales, at least. You have grown nothing but cotton for a long time and you are not trained to any other work.

Grow some cotton this year; but be sure to grow more corn, peas, hay, pork, poultry, syrup, peanuts, and vegetables than you have done before.

SCHOOL FOR NEGRO FARMERS IS HELD

The first movable school for Negro farmers to be held in the State, is in session at Ada, near Montgomery, where it opened Wednesday morning with a faculty of expert teachers from Tuskegee Institute. About seventy-five farmers and their wives are enrolled for the three-day course.

The instruction is intended to aid Negro tenants and small farmers to cultivate the soil more intelligently and the course of study consists of practical talks and demonstrations. The necessity of planting crops other than cotton, the selection of seed corn, and the cultivation of winter crops was stressed at the opening session of the school.

Yesterday instruction was given in the production and curing of meat, planting winter gardens and practical demonstrations in plowing. An interested crowd spent an hour in a field watching the making of a Mangum terrace, designed to prevent the land from washing, and at the same time permitting a clean cultivation without waste places.

The work for women has consisted of practical lessons in bread-making, laundering and canning vegetables. A large crowd last night attended an illustrated lecture on corn clubs for Negroes, given by T. M. Campbell, District Demonstration Agent for Negro farmers.

The Ada school is receiving the full co-operation of the white farmers in the section and will continue through today. Other counties in which the schools will be conducted are Lowndes, Russell, Tallapoosa, Coosa, Perry, Wilcox, Monroe, Butler, Morgan, Limestone and Colbert. The series will close about March 1, 1915.—Montgomery Advertiser.

This school for farmers is being provided for out of the Alabama colored farmers' share of the Smith-Lever Fund.

The Editor of The Negro Farmer was present on the last day of the session at Ada, and found more than one hundred colored persons present, as well as a number of white landowners and friends. Prof. Sibley, too, was present with his helpful counsel.

The colored farm instructors were Mr. Charles W. Greene, of the Tuskegee Institute faculty; Mr. Thomas M. Campbell, U.S. District Demonstration Agent, and Mrs. C. J. Calloway—the last named being in charge of the domestic science work.

Prof. George R. Bridgeforth, Director of Agriculture at Tuskegee was also present and made a very interesting and helpful talk.

The work done was intensely practical, the people being shown how to do first.

There is no doubt but that much good will result from these schools.

SUMPTER COUNTY FAIR

Marion—Sumpter County Fair is a most progressive Association. It recently awarded to Perry Edwards and wife the first prize of $50 for the best collective farm exhibit. These are Negroes. They were competing with farmers of both races. The judges were white men. The Edwards exhibit consisted of more than one hundred items grown and made on their farm. The race needs more Edwardses and the South needs more fair associations managed on the equitable basis of the Florida fair referred to. There is much independence and honor too, to be won from faithful and intelligent attention to the soil. That farm run by the Edwards does the race more good than a thousand cheap dance halls, bar rooms and pool rooms. Get busy and make something and grow something the world wants.—Joseph E. Wiley, A. B., Principal, Fessenden Academy, Florida.

URGE FARMERS TO PROTECT COTTON FROM "COUNTRY DAMAGE"

Department of Agriculture Specialists Strongly Advise the Warehousing of Cotton, or Protection for it in Temporary Sheds.

Washington, D. C.—To prevent what promises to be an unusual amount of "country damage" to cotton this year, the cotton marketing specialists of the Department of Agriculture are urging farmers and others to warehouse their cotton, or, if this is impossible, to build temporary sheds to protect it. They state that even under normal conditions our baled cotton suffers injury to the extent of many millions of dollars in value from what is commonly called "country damage." Owing to the war in Europe, the present crop cannot be marketed readily, and an unusually large amount of cotton, they point out, is lying unprotected around gins and on the producers' premises. The aggregate amount of country damage therefore, they say, is likely this year to be far greater than usual, and in view of the fact that there is such a large surplus, spinners and exporters will unquestionably discriminate sharply against damaged cotton.

They particularly urge farmers to depart from their usual custom and protect their cotton, and ask the factors to offer the very best terms possible.

THE TUSKEGEE ANNUAL NEGRO CONFERENCE

Do not forget the Annual Tuskegee Negro Conference, notice of which appears on the last page of this paper. Many subjects of vital concern to all the colored people will be discussed this year.

Before Buying a Piano Call on Geo. B. Ivey at The Postal Telegraph Company's Office, or at his residence 209 West Church Street, Tuskegee, Ala. He can save you 100 per cent on your purchase. Ask to be shown the Netzow Piano. You can save the middle man's profit.

FOR SALE POLAND CHINA PIGS bred gilts and sows, two Hornless Shorthorn bull calves. J. S. Officer, Sparta, Tenn.

Mr. Booker T. Washington, in his annual address to the National Negro Business League, at Muskogee, Okla., urged the farmers to

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WINNERS FROM THE SOIL

Colored Heroes of the Farm

SOUTH CAROLINA COLORED MAN ACHIEVES SUCCESS

No account of Texas Negroes is complete which fails to mention the Farmers' Improvement Society, founded by one of the ablest men of the Negro race in the United States, Hon. R. L. Smith, who was formerly a member of the Texas legislature from Colorado and who, by his abilities and good judgment, earned the approval and respect of many of the democratic party in both the senate and the house of representatives. Professor Smith's record and achievements are remarkable. Born in South Carolina, he came to Texas some two decades or more ago and engaged in teaching in the village of Oakland in Colorado County. His school exerted a great influence on the community and the people were led to make their homes sanitary and attracive to a degree unusual among Negroes by means of the village improvement society organized by Professor Smith. The success of this village improvement society led it founder to conceive the idea of a farmers' improvement society for Negro farmers of Texas and this was organized by Professor Smith and put into operation. Its objects were to get the Negro farmers out of debt, to inculcate thrift and economy and to practice co-operative buying of farm necessities.

Today the society has several hundred local branches and several thousand members with a death benefit as a fraternal feature. Under the active leadership of President Smith the society now operates a successful bank on Bridge street in Waco, an overall factory on the same street opposite the bank and a flourishing industrial school at Ladonia, Texas. Professor Smith is also a member of the Jeanes Fund Board, which disburses the interest on a fund of $1,000,000, left by Miss Anna T. Jeanes, a Quaker philanthropist of Philadelphia, to aid Negro rural schools along industrial lines.

—E. L. Blackshear in the Houston Post.

A GIRL WHO HAS DONE WELL ON A FARM

Camp Hill, Alabama,
November 30, 1914.

Editor of The Negro Farmer:

Please give me space.

Your paper is not only good for the farmers, it is good for everybody to read. It has a plenty of good farming.

I know a colored girl who has no mother, who has been keeping house for her father about 8 years. Her mother died in 1904 and left her and another girl. She married about 8 years ago, left her and now she has 4 pigs, a fattening hog to kill this fall, sold $10 worth of pigs this fall, and has a nice milch cow. She farms with her brother and nephew this year and they will make about 10 bales of cotton, have sold 5 bales and have 5 more to sell yet; and they don't owe anything out of them. I can say while she kept house for her father, she raised enough chickens and sold them and bought all the little house affairs; so she is able to stand the panic. She is the daughter of Henry Martin and Milley Martin. She is the baby girl and her name is Abbie Martin. She believes in having something. I hope she will get a good husband. She is now the mission worker of the woman's convention. May God bless the motherless girl in her work. —Tutt Gardner.

CARE OF STOCK

By M. D. L. Pope, a South Carolina Pastor—Suggestions Which He Gives His Congregation

YOUR ANIMAL AND STOCK IN GENERAL

1. It is a blazing shame to keep stock poor. If you have too many get rid of some and keep what you can feed handsomely.

2. Your horse or mule doesn't get anything but his feed and a pair of shoes occasionally, therefore, he ought to have a plenty.

3. The horse gives you your bank account, corn, syrup, clothes, shoes, meat, house, furniture, pianos, organs, lands, feeds your families and your company and he gets only feed and shoes. Then give him plenty and keep him fat. If you cannot farm well enough to make corn or to buy it, you ought to change jobs and quit perishing out your stock.

4. If you are going to have your animal to stand in the rain or cold, why not prepare a covering to protect him from the weather?

5. You ought to have a common sense rule for driving your horse. Over-driving on a fine stretch does him more harm than six months moderate work on the farm.

6. Over-loading is a foolish man's rule and a lazy man practices it sometimes to keep from making a second trip, but it injures the horse's wind and muscles. When you are ready for him to go on a necessary rapid drive his leaders and wind are affected.

7. Do away with some of your dogs, and keep only as many as you can easily fatten or be smart enough to cook for them.

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FARMERS' DICTIONARY

Belgium and the Kongo Free State

A subscriber writes:

"Since the present war in Europe began, I have repeatedly seen references to the fact that Belgium's present sufferings are payment for her cruelty to the black natives in the Kongo Free State—one of her colonies. But I have never known just what the cruelties were. Please tell what they were under your Farmers' Dictionary."

The Negro Farmer is not Belgium's judge, nor will it dare say that the present heavy hand of war and ruin and suffering are retributions for her past wrongs. Such judgment must be left to Him who declared that "The hire of the laborers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud crieth; and the cries of them which have reaped have entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth," to the Judge who said to those who seemed to feel that He did not see the injustices in the earth, nor hear the cries of the oppressed—"He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? he that formed the eye, shall he not see?"—that Judge who, so many times through the flight of years, has covered His judgment seat with strictest justice and has said, according to David: "For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I rise. * * * I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him."

While there may be some question about the punishment, there is none relative to the cruelties of which you inquire. The record reads that—

1. The natives were practically held in slavery.

2. They were so heavily and repeatedly taxed as to make it impossible ever to pay the taxes.

3. When the taxes were not paid, they were forced to work in payment.

4. They were required to carry a food tax often as many as 94 miles.

5. They could not own any land or products of the soil since these belonged to the State; nor could they dispose of any such products.

6. Under the system of porterage—carriers—the natives who served in this capacity were being utterly destroyed.

7. A labor tax was ordained, under which natives were forced to gather rubber. If they did not gather the rubber or enough, their chiefs were taken away into captivity, while overseers watched and cruelly flogged the natives.

8. The sentry system was established, under which native overseers guarded and shot down like dogs the unhappy natives who failed to do enough work.

9. The hands and feet of the poor unfortunates who failed in their tasks were often cut off as a warning to others.

10. Military troops were sent against the natives who failed in their obligations and often they were murdered, always without anyone being held responsible.

11. Unspeakable barbarities were perpetrated upon the native women.

The record is too shocking to write in detail.

If you want to know it all—if you would see just how far one nation which thought God did not see, did not hear, and did not care, could go, get the United States Congressional Record, Volume 40, part 6, page 5,111 and read "Conditions in the Congo Free State;" or send fifteen cents (money order) to the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., and ask for Senate Document 147; 61st Congress, 1st session.

FEED COTTONSEED MEAL NOW

You feeders of cattle should note the price of cottonseed meal now and work it into the ration. A big cotton crop and war are two factors which are cutting the price of this feed, which stands very high in the list of fattening rations. The meal can now be bought in the South for $22-$24 per ton, instead of $27-$31 a ton, as a year ago. The South will have 15,000,000 bales of cotton this year, producing about 2,000,000 tons of cottonseed meal, if last year's portion of seed is made into meal. Last year 400,000 tons went abroad, and not a great amount of this will get across this year, so that probably there will be available to feeders in this country 500,000 tons more than last year. This makes cottonseed meal about $15 per ton cheaper than linseed meal, and the feeding value is a trifle higher too.

Cottonseed hulls are also down, selling at $4.50 to $5.50 per ton according to government figures, where they usually sell for $7.00 to $9.00 per ton. Remember also that 80 to 90 per cent of the fertilizing value of this feed remains in the manure, and there is a double reason for taking advantage of this feed. Considering both feeding and fertilizing value of the meal, Government experts figure that it costs only 10-20 per cent of the market price of the meal. Combining cottonseed meal and corn silage in the same ration will give a cheap ration that will allow a maximum margin in feeding.

—Better Farming.

NATIONAL HEALTH DAY

On the second page of this paper will be found a notice of a day on which colored people are asked to assemble and discuss matters relating to their health. Be sure to read it.

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THE NEGRO FARMER

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ISAAC FISHER....Editor and Business Mgr.

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Saturday, January 2, 1915

MEMBER
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The Editor's Page

A Great Profession for Women

This is a plea for a profession that is as old as man; and which is, under certain circumstances, as beautiful as any conception which man or woman has ever had; but which, and the editor may not be as observant as he should be, seems to him to be a little unpopular at present.

I am talking about the ancient profession of home-making for women—a profession in which no one can successfully compete with them.

Makers of Different Dwelling Places

Bachelors and husbands can maintain clubs—and such places are always called clubs; janitors can successfully administer flats and apartments where great groups of people live—and such places are generally called "flats and apartments;" any wealthy man can build a hotel in which people may eat and sleep, but the persons who live in it will always refer to it as "our hotel;" any municipal, State or National government can provide tents and food for workers on public improvements; but everybody will call them camps.

The Only Home-makers in the World

But in all the world there is but one person who can make a home; and that person is a woman. Foxes make holes, birds make nests, wolves have lairs, lions have dens, but women make homes. A woman may be at a place and the place still not be a home; but wherever there is a home, a woman is there. This is no "mushy" compliment, but one of the mysterious facts of human life.

A Strange Fact

And yet, despite all this, neither our schools nor churches nor those who have "homes" lay much emphasis upon home-making as the finest of fine professions for women. A careful examination of the courses of study outlined for women in various schools will reveal the fact that even where all of the technical preparation for house-keeping is given, there is a total lack of frankness in stating the purpose of the course.

For instance, normal courses are usually explained to be given "to prepare young women to teach in the public schools," etc. But the domestic science course is just "the domestic science course," with seldom an explanation that it is intended for those girls, in particular, who plan to enter the profession of home-making.

Ashamed of Home-making

I have heard girls speak with pride of their future careers in music, in pedagogy, in art, as missionary workers, and as leaders in other fields—I have no objection to any of these. But I do not believe I have ever heard a girl proudly say in public without blushing, or half-apology, that she was preparing to be the most beautiful home-maker in her community. And I have sat in various institutions and listened to their women graduates tell what they had accomplished in the world. In almost every case they have told of work which any man of equal intelligence and industry could have done better than they had done it. But I have not yet heard a single woman stand in any of these great gatherings and in ringing voice of pride tell of a man she had made supremely content, of children whom she was training to be beautiful before God, of a home she was making as near as possible like the one being prepared in "The New Jerusalem," and of personal happiness because she was trying to be the "helpmeet" for which the Father made the first woman.

Explain Yourself, Sir!

There is something wrong, and it is no answer to what I have said to assert with soul-satisfying complacency that **"Men are the cause of it all;"** and that "women have as much right to enter the professions as men"—of course they have.

But what will you do with this "big" fact that with all of the modern improvements in science and inventions, we have not found any other class of persons who can make homes—no class but women; and yet we seem to be growing ashamed to admit that it is the most honorable as it is the most venerable profession for women.

A Great Character and a Great Tribute

A few days ago, the wife of a friend of ours grew tired and laid her weary body down to sleep forever more. Writing of that dear one, the heart-broken Editor of the Tuskegee News said:

"In the long ago days when our paths had but recently met and she had pledged to us her heart and life, she handed to us a verse on which were the words: 'I am not ambitious for myself but for you,' and from that day up to death she gave herself absolutely and unselfishly to her husband and children."

What a tribute! What a great character to call it forth! for mark you, it takes a greater soul to be willing to stand in the shadows and say to another one "Go forward! I will comfort and encourage you," than it does to stand before the world and say "I, too, have conquered and hold world palms of victory." God give rest, and I know He will, to a woman of so fine a character as the one I have just mentioned. God give peace and help to the lonely man who walks without the comfort of that soothing voice, now silent here, and of that little sustaining hand so cold and still today.

In the Matter of Professions and Public Careers For Women

I am told that when the beautiful and beloved Frances Willard, leader of the temperance cause in America, laid her down to die, there was before her mind a picture, not of her great public work, and it was great, not of the praise which the world had given her, not of the monster crowds which she had addressed, but of the fact that she had made no home for one person and that

no baby fingers of her very own had ever clasped her hands. If this was true, what a commentary upon the emptiness of public honors.

A Word for the Schools

If there is anything in the teachings or attitude of the men and women who have charge of our schools which makes young women look lightly upon home-making as a profession, every school so manned and conducted should be razed to the ground. Let us hope that the trouble is not there. Certainly some of the schools see this question properly, but some do not. Kindly tell the public and the girls what domestic science courses are for.

ISAAC FISHER.

IN DEBT TO THE NEGRO FARMER

December 8, 1914.

Mr. Editor: Dear sir, I will drop you a few lines, feeling that I am in debt to this paper, The Negro Farmer, as I am a Subscriber to it. I live about 6 miles west of Union Springs. After reading the issue of Nov. 21, about "One Secret of Strength," on the 6th page, of this paper, it put me to thinking, and I read it to many who are not taking of it. I will tell you of a gentleman living not far from me, Mr. Tom Warren. He will get about 500 bushels of corn, 8 banks of potatoes, 13 barrels of syrup, 60 bushels of peas, 15 loads of pumpkin. So I expect to keep on reading this paper. I like it. It is the best paper for the Negro. —B. Cunningham.

HOW DO YOU FEED YOURS?

Here are some stock rations that are approved by the animal husbandry department of the Nebraska College of Agriculture. How do they compare with those you are using:

For Work Horses.—Corn, 1 part; oats, 1 part; prairie hay.

For Colts Under Two Years—Oats, 2 parts; corn, 1 part; alfalfa; liberal feed.

For Fattening Steers.—(1) Corn, 16 pounds; alfalfa, all they want. (2) Corn, 10 pounds; alfalfa, all they want; silage, 10 pounds. (3) Corn, 16 pounds; cottonseed cake 3 pounds; silage, all they want. (4) Corn, 16 pounds; alfalfa, all they want.

For Fattening Pigs.—Corn, 19 parts; tankage, 1 part. (2) Corn and alfalfa.

For Fattening Lambs.—Corn, 1 part; shorts, 2 parts; alfalfa, liberal feed; silage, medium feed.

For Fattening Ewes.—Alfalfa; silage, 2 or 3 pounds.

—Better Farming.

RAPE AS A FORAGE CROP IN THE COTTON BELT

The United States Department of Agriculture has issued the following special Bulletin:

Rape is a succulent, nutritious plant, closely related to kale, collards, and cabbage, and requires essentially the same conditions of culture as these crops. The plants grow to a height of 1 1-2 to 4 feet, depending on conditions of soil and climate. The best forage varieties do not bloom the same season they are planted. It is the most important plant of the cabbage family to use as feed for hogs, sheep, cows, and chickens, and for this purpose should be much more commonly grown. Practically only one variety is grown in the United States, namely, the Dwarf Essex. The seed is quite cheap, usually retailing at about 10 cents per pound.

Time of Seeding

Rape is a cool-season crop, and in the South should, therefore, be planted in the fall or in very early spring. The crop is not injured by ordinary winters in the South, but of course the growth is slow in cold weather. In the fall it is best seeded from August 15 to October 15. Later seeding is scarcely advisable. except near the Gulf coast and in Florida, where it may be sown up to December 15. In the spring it should be seeded just as early as danger of freezes is past; that is, at about the same date spring oats are sown. The earlier seedings nearly always give the largest yields, as growth is checked when very warm weather occurs. In summer the plant becomes much less palatable. Fall seeding is best, but early spring sowing is often successful. Spring seeding is never advisable in Florida or near the Gulf coast.

Soil Preparation and Cultivation

Rape succeeds best in rich loam soils, but profitable crops are grown on sandy and on clayey soils. An abundant moisture supply is necessary to produce large yields. Good preparation of the seed bed is advisable. Barnyard manure is the best fertilizer. In the absence of this, 400 to 600 pounds per acre of a complete commercial fertilizer may be used.

When rape is planted in wide rows it should be given three or four cultivations during its early growth. After cutting the first crop a second growth is often obtained, especially if the stubble is cultivated.

Method of Seeding

Rape may be sown in cultivated rows, in narrow drill rows, or broadcasted. If planted in rows, these should ordinarily be 24 to 30 inches apart. In rows 28 inches wide, which is the best average width, 2 pounds of seed per acre are sufficient.

If drilled with a grain drill 4 pounds of seed per acre are required. If broadcasted 5 or 6 pounds per acre should be used.

Rape may be successfully grown with certain other crops. Thus, it may be sown in early spring on oats, wheat, or rye, and usually a good stand is secured after the grain crop is cut. It may also be sown mixed with clover, to be used as pasture, or between rows in some winterkilled crop for late fall pasture.

The best depth to sow the seed is about one-half inch.

Uses of the Crop

Rape is most commonly used as a pasture crop for hogs or sheep. Cattle eat it readily, but destroy considerable by trampling, especially where the rape is broadcasted. In broad rows the injury by trampling is less, as animals usually walk between the rows. Many animals do not like rape at first, but must acquire a taste for it before they will eat it readily. Salt should be supplied liberally, as this will tend to prevent the purging which rape often produces.

In pasturing cattle on rape care must be taken to prevent bloating. They should not be turned into a rape pasture when it is wet with dew or rain or when the cattle are very hungry. If a supply of hay or straw is kept convenient, cattle will instinctively turn to this when they begin to bloat. Where animals can pass readily from rape to grass pasture, cases of bloating are very infrequent. On the whole, it is best to avoid danger and not pasture cattle on pure rape. There is no danger of bloating with hogs.

Rape may also be cut and stall fed. If fed to dairy cows it should be just after milking, as otherwise it may taint the milk.

Rape is also an excellent feed for all kinds of poultry.

Rape is quite as good for human food as kale or collards, and may be prepared in the same manner. It is often grown for human food under the name of smooth or spring kale.

Rape varies greatly in yield, according to soil. Yields of 30 tons per acre, green weight, are not rare. Ten to 15 tons is a good yield, and smaller returns are profitable.

Under favorable conditions rape is ready to pasture in about eight weeks after seeding. An acre of good rape will easily supply pasture for 20 hogs for two months.

STAR FISH & OYSTER CO.

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BROOD COOPS

Chickens hatched during the winter should be brooded in a poultry house or shed while the outside weather conditions are unfavorable; after the weather becomes settled, they should be reared in brood coops out of doors. Brood coops should be made so that they can be closed at night, to keep out cats, rats, and other animals, and enough ventilation should be allowed so that the hen and chicks will have plenty of fresh air. Details and specifications for building a good coop are given in the Department's Farmers' Bulletin 574, "Poultry-House Construction," page 13, which is to be had on application.

The hen should be confined in the coop until the chicks are weaned, while the chickens are allowed free range after they are a few days old. Where hens are allowed free range and have to forage for feed for themselves and chicks they often take them through wet grass, where the chicks may become chilled and die. Most of the feed the chicks secure in this manner goes to keep up the heat of the body, whereas feed eaten by those that are with a hen that is confined produces more rapid growth, as the chicks do not have so much exercise. Then, too, in most broods there are one or more chicks that are weaker than the others, and if the hen is allowed free range the weaker ones often get behind and out of hearing of the mother's cluck and call. In most cases this results in the loss and death of these chicks, due to becoming chilled. If the hen is confined the weakling can always find shelter and heat under her, and after a few days may develop into strong, healthy chicks.

The loss of young chicks due to allowing the hen free range is undoubtedly large. Chickens frequently have to be caught and put into their coops during sudden storms, as they are apt to huddle into some hole or corner where they get chilled or drowned. They must be kept growing constantly if the best results are to be obtained, as they never entirely recover from checks in their growth even from a short period. Hens are usually left with their young chicks as long as they will brood them, while some hens frequently commence to lay before the chickens are weaned. —U. S. Department of Agriculture.

WOMAN'S COLUMN

A PREACHER-HOUSEKEEPER

Who ever heard of a preacher, a colored one at that, teaching his congregation how to keep house? Well, the Negro Farmer has discovered one in Bethune, South Carolina.

This minister not only preaches from his pulpit on such subjects as Farm Ideas, Cooking, Church Attendance, Church Finances; Hour of Worship; Functions of Officers; Animal and Stock, and Keeping House; but prints little leaflets on these subjects and sends them around to members of his congregation.

Below are given some of his views on keeping, and whether the ladies all agree with him or not, we must admit that he is trying to be a true shepherd to his flock:

Keeping House

1. You ought to have a wide, clean yard. The back should be as clean as the front. You should visit under the house sometimes and engage yourself in a first-class raking.

2. The steps to your house are rottening and the floor to your piazza is breaking through. Some things for which you have been spending money would have fixed these places.

3. You ought to lift your door so that it will not drag the floor.

3. Every man ought to put in glass lights and buy window and door screens to protect against flies, and to enjoy a better ventilation at night as well as in the day time.

5. No man should rear a family in dark rooms. Dark rooms affect morals. There should be plenty windows to a house and glass lights put in.

6. There should be regular and systematic times for house cleaning. Every family ought to wage war against dirt and filth.

7. The kitchen and dining room ought to be the cleanest part about the house:

(1) Clean floors.
(2) Clean dishes.
(3) Clean tables.
(4) Clean chairs.
(5) Clean stove.
(6) Clean safe.
(7) Clean Cook.
(8) Clean dish cloths.

(9) Every dish ought to have a second washing before wiping or drying. Grease lies on the top of coffee because the washing, wiping and drying were not properly done.

8. All members of the family ought to eat at the same table and at the same time, matters not what kind of guest you have, unless some serve as waiters. If your children can't act pretty at the table the fault lies not in the child, but in its instructor.

9. The inmates of the home ought to keep themselves clean. To change garments becomes very often necessary. When the time comes the change ought to be made.

10. Hanging clothes around the wall of rooms is nonsense and indecency. If they need airing, take them out doors to the clothes line or elsewhere, and afterwards, fold and pack them away in place where the clothes belong.

11. Have a certain place for the family's shoes and stop chasing all over the house when you wish to change. In fact, have a place for everything and put everything in its place. Not until then can we style ourselves housekeepers. Definition: Housekeeping is caring for articles and keeping up with them (Pope).

12. Your mantle should not be a drug room shelf,, nor center table, nor a book case. Some people take their porch floor for a wood house. Why not use a box?

13. Some stuff every drawer with scraps

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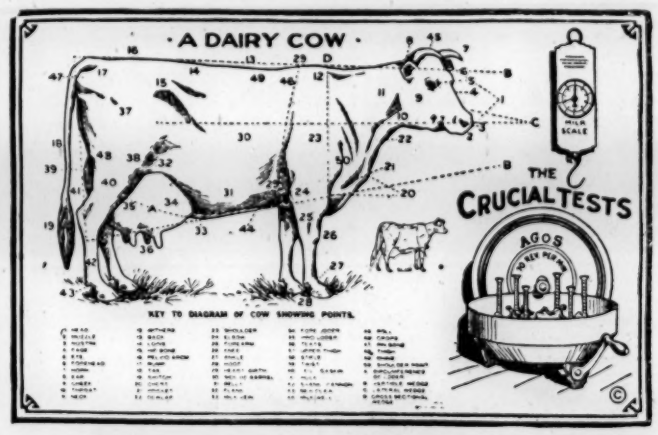

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from the cuttings. I would make me a scrap bag to hold my scraps, and it is equally true that there should be laundry bags for each family to prevent soiled clothes from scattering.

14. The family ought to work together to carry out the above, and any other facts not mentioned.

15. Prayer should adorn the home with Christlikeness. Family prayer ought to be as regular as family meals.

Your pastor,

M. D. L. Pope.

WORDS FROM YOUR PASTOR

To Bethel Hill Baptist Church, Bethune, S. C.

FARM IDEAS

(These thoughtful suggestions are some sent to members of his church by a colored pastor in South Carolina.—M. D. L. Pope.)

1. Don't wait until next year comes before you start your farm or business—start now in your plans.

2. If you are poor you had better look after the acreage. Too many acres will take more fertilizer than you can pay for, or cause you to put it out too thin and not make enough to settle your debt.

3. Think over your expenditures for the year 1914 and see if you can't afford to spend less in 1915.

4. What time of the year did your bank account give out? If you had spent less in 1913 you could now brace against the panic, and have less fear. It's going to take an everyday panic to teach some of our people to lay aside their means.

5. Prosperity means nothing to some folks. They think prosperity means to spend, to spend all.

6. How many acres are you going to cultivate, how much fertilizer are you going to use, and what is going to be the size of your lien next year?

7. Your pastor wishes to ask this one important question: What is the best method to use to prevent giving liens, or how long do you think you can run your farm without taking out one?

8. He who depends on giving liens will be disappointed in making a will. If you doubt it just keep on giving them.

9. Farmers aways did play the part of a fool by giving their income before it was made. If Our Father were to change the fare from a free ride to the cash purchase of tickets all the spendthrifts would let the fire overtake them.

10. Our wives and children are looking to us, but unless we use better common sense and more strict economy in the future they might look in other direction.

11. People these days rather look fine dressed than wealthy. We need not hope for bank accounts and carry all our labor on our backs and spread it all over our tables.

READ THIS AND THINK

Colored farmers will do well to read the following extract from "Better Farming," and do a little serious thinking—

WAR WILL SOON HELP FARM HELP PROBLEM

Now is the time for wide-awake farmers to solve their farm help problems. Thousands of war victims are eager to escape starvation and get to America. The Belgians are homeless and without a country, and will continue to be in worse straights until the war is over. Even then, they may be no better off for a country. Already newspapers and societies are arranging to bring over the best class of immigrants from Belgium. The Chicago Tribune is conducting a campaign to find homes for Belgian orphans in good American home. Thousands are asking for a boy, a girl, a mother and child, or more where they can afford it, and think that both parties will be gainers by this plan of adoption. There is no thriftier class in Europe than the Belgians. They were born stockmen and intensive and co-operative farmers. Our farms could gain no better class of people to aid us in developing the kind of agriculture we want. We know of thousands of farm homes in the middle west especially where lack of help, no children, and other causes would be balanced and made much happier for all concerned were Belgian women and children taken into the homes. It is almost impossible to get "hired girls" on farms in many sections of the prosperous middle west any more, as everyone is so prosperous that such work is looked down upon as too menial for girls and women who do not have their own homes. Consequently farm life to the women is a dreary round of work from dawn till after dark, day after day, the year round. Farmers in these conditions should give the matter consideration. They have a chance to aid humanity, their country and themselves at the same time. This is a case where the best instead of the worst elements of a country will come to us. Many of these people who are homeless are our equals or betters socially, and doctors will see that diseased, cripples and mentally weak will not be placed in our homes. Now is the time to act.

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For the Women on and off the Farm

It is a source of help in the home, garden, laundry, kitchen and on the poultry yard.

For Teachers

It is always full of supplementary matter especially suitable for the class-room. Several teachers in the Tuskegee Institute use the papers regularly in their classes.

For Colored Children

Its stories of how colored men and women are succeeding are said by many teachers to be the best of their kind to be found anywhere.

For Readers of Newspapers and Magazines

The Negro Farmer is a necessity. Its "Farmers' Dictionary" explains all public questions, fully, carefully and in an interesting manner.

For White Landowners Who Employ Colored Farmers

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